Undocumented alumna and DREAMer shares her legacy of endurance and hope

This Cornell graduate – let’s call her Kim – gave the March 29 Soup and Hope Talk but needs to remain anonymous. She is an undocumented Chinese immigrant who expects permanent U.S. residency within weeks.

She shared her story with an audience of about 80 at Sage Chapel out of a desire to “put a face” on one of the some 700,000 undocumented students who have spent most of their lives in the United States absorbing American culture and values, but living in dread of discovery and deportation.

Like many other students, Kim had hoped that the DREAM (Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors) Act would become law and, with the unwavering support of her parents, pursued the education that would have met one of its major requirements.

The DREAM Act, which was pioneered in 2001 and re-introduced in 2011, is targeted to youth who entered the United States with undocumented parents from such countries as Mexico, China, Korea or Russia. It would offer undocumented high school graduates permanent residence should they enlist in the U.S. armed forces or attend college. “Though different, all DREAMers share a common legacy of strength and endurance,” said Kim. “Through their perseverance during hardships, they also become symbols of hope.”

Kim’s story began with her grandparents – her grandfather was a poor fisherman in Communist China. They only ate meat on the Chinese New Year, when each child was given a pair of handmade cloth shoes and an outfit that were to last for a year. Her mother, however, had to drop out by sixth grade to help feed the family.

Her father’s early life was on a rice farm. His father had had a small business in Singapore before Chairman Mao came to power, and when he returned to China in the 1950s, he was accused of being a capitalist. As an example to others, officials took Kim’s grandfather from village to village, where crowds “hurled insults and stones at his head.” Her father dropped out of school after fifth grade, also to help feed the family.

Determined to escape rural China, her father swam to Hong Kong – a 7-hour feat – only to be discovered and sent back to China. The second time he succeeded and settled in Hong Kong, married Kim’s mother and had two children. They entered the United States on a tourist visa in 1992, when Kim was three years old, because they had heard of educational opportunities here.

The first two years were the hardest, Kim said, before her parents had jobs or knew any English and they lived in a one-bedroom basement. “For the most part, I played with my one doll and my brother’s toy trucks,” she said.

She gradually learned what it meant to be undocumented. “We were raised here, learned the language and absorbed the culture,” she said. But, “we are not allowed to hold a driver’s license, travel, vote, hold a decent-paying consistent job, receive scholarships or take loans.” Unable to return to China, they learned of her grandparents’ deaths long-distance.

Kim worked hard and went to Hunter College High School for intellectually gifted students. Her father worked 12-hour days to afford her Cornell education.

“When I look back at my family’s past, I am strengthened by how far we have come and how much further we will go. My family made so many sacrifices through the years, but we also experienced much joy as well,” said Kim, who married a U.S. citizen a few months ago and whose brother is now in a master’s program at another Ivy league university.

“For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope,” Kim closed, with a reading from Jeremiah 29:11.
New senior director of Facilities Management to begin June 4

WENDY FRANZESE

Maria Cimilluca, associate vice president for facilities management and planning at Franklin and Marshall College, has been named senior director of Facilities Management at Cornell as of June 4; she will report to Kyu-Jung Whang, vice president for facilities services.

Cimilluca will provide leadership to some 700 staff members who keep the Ithaca campus environment safe, attractive, functional and efficient through their work in the Facilities Management service units: Maintenance Management, Project Services Group, Department of Grounds, Building Care, the Facilities Management Shops, and the campus zones.

“Maria is known for her strong leadership with a commitment to quality and satisfying customers needs with a vision toward continual improvement,” said Whang. “Her breadth and diversity of experience in all aspects of facilities and her proven success in working with others are visible in the progression of her professional career. I was impressed with the depth of her knowledge and the thoughtful ness she brings to complex matters.”

“I am honored to be working with such an outstanding group of facilities management staff and excited about the endless possibilities of what we can achieve working together as a team,” Cimilluca said in accepting the Cornell position.

Cimilluca has more than 15 years of professional experience in facilities management in higher education at both public and private institutions. At Franklin and Marshall, she has been responsible for campus planning, facilities and operations, utilities, environmental health and safety, and capital programs.

Previously, Cimilluca worked at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech) and Syracuse University in key facilities leadership roles.

Cimilluca is accustomed to working closely with members of the campus community and student representatives, having served on committees that focus on such topics as building maintenance, workplace safety, information technology in the classroom, sustainability, public safety, campus landscapes and campus master planning.

Cimilluca received her bachelor of landscape architecture degree from Syracuse University and a master of science in engineering technology degree from East Tennessee State University. Her professional affiliations include the Association of Physical Plant Administrators, Society for College and University Planning, Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education and the International Facility Management Association.

“Fantastic Fathers and Happy Dads”: a workshop on practical tools for building strong relationships

What’s the key to being a fantastic and happy dad? What’s the difference between happy dads and unhappy dads? Travis F. Winter, LCSW-R, clinical social worker, parent educator and founder of Peace of Mind Clinical Services, will discuss how fathers can become happier and more fulfilled in their role as dads in a free workshop, April 26, 9-10 a.m., 321 Weill Hall.

Winter brings his many years of experience working with kids and families to this workshop, sponsored by the Department of Inclusion and Workforce Diversity. To register: go to: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/viewform?formkey=dGV1ZFBbVZGxYMGo0XzR6VURrTeE6MQ, or call 255-2350.
**Employee Assembly survey**

The Employee Assembly (EA) is asking all Cornell staff members to share their perceptions of the EA and its communications vehicles through a confidential online survey, to be released April 6. Those staff without active net IDs will get paper surveys. Survey respondents will be entered automatically into a contest to win an Amazon Kindle.

The EA consists of 16 Cornell staff members committed to providing employees with a means of continuous involvement in the governance of the affairs and life of the university. Working closely with members of the administration, the EA encourages visibility for employees as community members, more equal participation with faculty and students in the policy-making process and an increased sense of community at the university.

The deadline for completing the survey is April 30.


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**Cornell six-student EMS team wins national life support skills contest**

The six students on the skills team of the Cornell University Emergency Medical Service unit were recognized for their proficiency in basic life support (BLS) skills, coming in first place at the Physio-Control EMS BLS Skills Competition at the 19th annual conference of the National Collegiate Emergency Medical Services Foundation (NCEMSF), Feb. 24-26, in Baltimore.

The team, comprised of Jonathan Bar ’13; Austin Chang ’12; Andrew Lazar ’10, grad ’12; Rebecca Goldstein ’13; Alyssa Tutunjian ’13; and Jacob Solomon ’12, was scored on its clinical, leadership and creativity skills.

“The process for choosing EMS volunteers each year is extremely competitive,” said Christine Stallmann, associate vice president for environmental health and safety. “This, coupled with extensive ongoing training, has produced a high-quality EMS unit, as shown in our attaining this national recognition.”

NCEMSF is comprised of more than 250 college campus-based emergency medical service agencies trained to respond within minutes and provide care tailored specifically to campus emergencies.

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**Employee Assembly and employee-elected trustee elections begin April 16**

Voting for seven staff members to the Employee Assembly and one staff member to the University Board of Trustees begins April 16 and runs through April 27.

Four candidates are running for employee-elected trustee: Jamie Duong, consultant/advisor in information technology, School of Hotel Administration; Greg Mezey, director of Food and Beverage, Statler Hotel Banquets; Alan Mittman, director, Workforce Policy and Labor Relations; and Karl Smolenski, research support specialist, Laboratory for Elementary Particle Physics

Running for membership seats on the Employee Assembly are two current EA members, Bill Esty, Bailey Hall operations manager, and Curtis Ferguson II, associate director for Hotel Administration Undergraduates, and six new candidates: Joe Ambrosetti, director, CEMBA Program, Executive Education, Johnson School; Albert Capogrossi, shift supervisor, Survey Research Institute; Eric Lee, medical technologist, Animal Health Diagnostic Center; Michelle Stefanski-Seymour, ambulatory technician, Cornell University Hospital for Animals; Robert Blanco, conference planner, Conferences Services; Thomas Mitchell, website manager, Electrical and Computer Engineering; and Bill Smith, administrative assistant, Arts and Sciences Office of Admissions and Advising.

Full biographical information on all candidates will be published in Pawprint next issue, April 20.
57th Service Recognition Dinner recognizes 282 staff

NANCY DOOLITTLE

Celebrating 25, 30, 35, 40 or more years of service to Cornell and representing more than a total of 8,300 years of experience, 282 staff members were recognized at the 57th Annual Service Recognition Dinner, March 28 at Newman Arena in Bartels Hall.

Two staff members were recognized for 45 years of service – Ann Prince-Rivkin, administrative assistant for the Office of Government and Community Relations, who recently retired, and Ray Helmke, director of computer operations at the Laboratory for Elementary Particle Physics. Prince-Rivkin handled the vice president’s calendar and other administrative duties. According to various colleagues, Prince-Rivkin was known for her smile and kind words for everyone. “Over my tenure at Cornell, it’s been a mutual admiration society, one of respect, one of working for and with a remarkable group of people at all levels. It’s been fun,” Prince-Rivkin says.

Helmke leads computing for particle physics, accelerator control systems and accelerator scientific and computing support. “My position in information technology has been one of constant change and growth,” Helmke says. “Cornell has provided the stability, community and beautiful environment for a very satisfying career.”

President David Skorton also recognized four staff who had reached the 40-year mark: Nan Colvin, registrar at the Law School; George Gull, research support specialist in radiophysics and space research; Linda Johanson, managing editor of the Administrative Science Quarterly at the Samuel C. Johnson Graduate School of Management; and Linda Pearce Kabelac ’69, major gifts officer at Alumni Affairs and Development.

Skorton also drew attention to those who are soon retiring and those who actively volunteer on and off campus.

Mary George Opperman, vice president for human resources and safety services, thanked the staff members for their services, from feeding students and caring for grounds and buildings to providing safety services, supporting classrooms and research and ensuring that students are supported and bills are paid. She also noted the 47 employees who suffered losses as a result of the floods caused by Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee last fall, and highlighted the university’s CARE Fund to which faculty and staff contributed to benefit such victims.

Susan Murphy, vice president for student and academic services, recalled what was happening at Cornell, in Ithaca and around the world during each of the anniversary years, while the Backtalk Band performed songs representative of each era.

Hearsay, a Cornell women’s a cappella group, performed during dinner.
From left: President David Skorton recognizes staff members for their years of service; Pat Leary, 30-year awardee, her sister Joanne Leary, 35-year awardee, and Brigid Shipman, 30-year awardee, enjoy the evening.

From left: David Drogo and his wife Barbara, 30-year awardee, enjoy a quiet moment; Linda Kabelac, 40-year awardee, dances with her husband, Ed.

From left: The women’s a capella group Hearsay provides entertainment; Scott Hamilton, 35-year awardee, dances with Kristin MacHenry (her husband Robert is a 30-year awardee); George Gull, 40-year awardee, is recognized for his years of service.

From left: 45-year awardee Ann Prince-Rivkin dances with Vice President Tommy Bruce; 45-year awardee Ray Helmke is recognized for his years of service.
Homelessness and hunger next door

A panel discussion on homelessness and hunger in the upstate New York region and the work being done to alleviate these issues will be held April 9, 5-6:30 p.m., G76 Goldwin Smith Hall (Lewis Auditorium). Panelists include: Christine Olson, Cornell professor of nutritional sciences; Kathy Schلاتher, executive director of the Human Services Coalition of Tompkins County; Nathan Shinagawa (D-4), vice chair of the Tompkins County Legislature, U.S. congressional candidate; and Natasha Thompson, president and CEO of the Food Bank of the Southern Tier. Sponsored by the Cornell Half-in-Ten, Public Service Center, Hillel, Cornell United Religious Work and the Center for Jewish Living.

Reminder: Employee trips to New York City resume

Round-trip tickets for bus trips to New York City are scheduled for April 14, May 5 and June 2. The registration for these trips will be done through Swarthout Coaches, 257-2277. Swarthout will ask for your net ID, as these trips are discounted for Cornell employees (and their guests). Cost: $50 per person.

Payment is due at the time of reservation. You may use your credit card. It you decide to send a check, your reservation will not be approved until that payment reaches Swarthout.

Seats are assigned and filled from front to back as payment is received.

Once your payment is received and your reservation is set you will receive an email confirmation. This is also your boarding pass for the trip.

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46th Annual Open House

April 14
10am to 4pm
College of Veterinary Medicine
Open to all Complimentary Admission
details: www.vet.cornell.edu/openhouse

College of Veterinary Medicine annual open house

The 46th annual Open House at the College of Veterinary Medicine will be held April 14, 10 a.m.–4 p.m. The open house, free and open to the public, provides a chance for those interested to get a closer look at veterinary medicine. Some of the events planned for this year include watching a horse exercise on a treadmill, the chance to dress like a surgeon, performing emergency surgery on a teddy bear, guessing a cow’s weight, cuddling pocket pets, listening to a dog’s heartbeat, visiting a petting zoo and watching agility and police K-9 demonstrations. Students, faculty members and staff will be on hand to answer questions about a career as a veterinarian, a veterinary technician, or an animal care specialist. More details are at http://www.vet.cornell.edu/openhouse.

Volunteer opportunities for Cornell employees

University Hearing and Review Boards

The University Assembly and its Codes and Judicial Committee are now accepting applications for service on the University Hearing and Review Boards (the UHRB). The UHRB are a pool of students, staff and faculty who serve on the panels that hear, review and determine the outcome of alleged violations of the Campus Code of Conduct investigated by the Office of the Judicial Administrator.

Interested members of the Cornell community should apply online before 4 p.m, on April 16 at: https://assembly.cornell.edu/staffing/committees/15/requests/new.

Slope Day

Volunteers are needed for Slope Day, which will be held May 4. Your job will not be to police the slope; just to help the last day of classes to be safe, relaxing and enjoyable for everyone.

Volunteers are needed for four-hour shifts throughout the day. These are the “Level 2 Volunteers.” There is also a need for two-hour volunteer shifts, or “Level 1 Volunteers.”

You may also select among volunteer duties. All staff/faculty volunteers are asked to submit an on-line application, at http://www.slopeday.cornell.edu. For pay practices during Slope Day, contact either your supervisor, your local human resources representative or the Division of Human Resources (255-6894) for clarification.

If you have any questions, e-mail slopehelp@cornell.edu or call 255-3513.

Commencement

Volunteer for Commencement Weekend this May 26 and/or 27 and be entered into a drawing to win a free iPad or two free round-trip tickets on the Campus-to-Campus bus to New York City.

Cornell’s 144th Commencement will be held Sunday, May 27, with the Convocation and Ph.D. Hooding Ceremony Saturday, May 26.

Volunteers will also enjoy:
• A paid day off to use by December 31
• A free continental breakfast before Convocation and/or Commencement
• A special thank-you gift
• An invitation to a thank-you reception with President David Skorton on June 18.

To sign up as a volunteer: http://www.commencement.cornell.edu/May/ushers/index.html. Questions? Contact the Commencement Office at commencement@cornell.edu or 255-9541.
Book talks abound

**Louis Hyman**, economic historian and assistant professor at the ILR School, will give a book talk about his new publication, “Borrow: The American Way of Debt,” (2012), April 11 at 4:30 p.m., ILR Kneel Center, 227 Ives Hall. His book examines how the rise of consumer borrowing – virtually unknown before the twentieth century – has altered U.S. culture and economy.


**Tyran Grillo**, second-year Ph.D. student at Cornell in East Asian Literature, will present a book reading of “Murder in the Red Chamber,” April 9 at 4 p.m., The Cornell Store. “Murder in the Red Chamber,” is set in the world of the original Dream of the Red Chamber, the masterwork of eighteenth-century Chinese fiction by Cao Xueqin.


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**College life today**

The Cornell Campus Club will present a talk by Susan Murphy, vice president for student and academic services, on “Has the Ivy Changed? A Look at College Life at Cornell Today,” April 17 at 10 a.m. in the auditorium in Kendal at Ithaca, 2230 North Triphammer Rd. Murphy will provide a close look at who Cornell’s students are, what college life is like today, and how today’s college experience compares with that of former generations. The program is free and open to the public.

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**UA chair discusses possible changes in sexual violence investigations**

**NANCY DOOLITTLE**

On April 10, the University Assembly (UA) will debate and likely vote on a resolution to change how allegations of sexual violence by students are resolved, transferring their jurisdiction from the Campus Code of Conduct to a modified version of University Policy 6.4. If passed, the resolution will go to President David Skorton. If he approves it, jurisdiction will be transferred and University Policy 6.4 modified accordingly. Here, Melissa Lukasiewicz, chair of the UA, answers questions about the resolution.

Melissa, what prompted this resolution?

On April 4, 2011, the Office for Civil Rights of the U.S. Department of Education sent a “Dear Colleague” letter to recipients of federal education funding to clarify their obligations under Title IX, the federal law that prohibits discrimination based on sex in American educational institutions. Administrators then discussed with the UA the ways in which the Campus Code of Conduct – which outlines processes for addressing allegations of sexual assault and sexual harassment by students – has provisions inconsistent with the Dear Colleague letter. The UA passed a temporary amendment last April to modify the code to better comply with the letter and has since developed a long-term solution.

What changes would come from that solution?

Since 1996, allegations of sexual harassment and assault involving faculty and staff have been handled under Policy 6.4. The same allegations against a student have been handled under the Code of Conduct. Policy 6.4 uses an investigative process, whereas the Campus Code utilizes an adversarial process. If passed by the UA and approved by President Skorton, such allegations against students will also be handled under Policy 6.4. Instead of a hearing board of students, faculty, and staff, a designated, trained administrator would investigate the allegations of sexual harassment or violence involving students as well as faculty and staff. After talking with the accused, accuser, and all pertinent witnesses, he or she would come to a decision based on a “preponderance of evidence” (“more likely than not”) rather than a “clear and convincing evidence” standard. This process would be more private – victims wouldn’t need to discuss their experiences directly before other students or their assailants.

What other changes would occur?

Both the complainant and the accused would have the same right of appeal under Policy 6.4. Also, allegations of sexual harassment and assault would be resolved far more quickly. Generally, under Policy 6.4, investigations are completed in less than 60 days, as required by Title IX, but the Campus Code process often takes significantly longer.

How was the current resolution developed?

We have had a year of discussions in the UA’s Codes and Judicial Committee, in UA meetings, and with institutional stakeholders and student leaders about whether to modify the Code of Conduct or to transfer these cases to a modified Policy 6.4. After considering all the reasonable alternatives to solve this complex set of issues, the sponsors crafted the current language in the resolution. This language was passed by the CJC in February and forwarded to the UA for consideration. The UA has been actively engaged in discussions ever since receiving this resolution from the CJC and hopes to finalize and vote upon it at the UA’s next meeting on April 10.

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**Have questions?**

Drop by B16 Day Hall on Monday, April 9, from 2:30 to 6 p.m. to ask UA Chair Melissa Lukasiewicz questions about Title IX and the proposed resolution. The Cornell community also is invited to attend the UA meeting April 10 in 316 Day Hall, 4:30-6:30 p.m.
Rhododendron’s Fashion Boutique, The Cornell Store

The Cornell Store will hold a three-day sale of items from Rhododendron’s Fashion Boutique, April 17-19, 9 a.m. -5 p.m. (Wed. 'til 6:30 p.m.). Shop for accessories, handbags, leggings, bandos, camisoles, jewelry, scarves and more at college-friendly prices. Designer brands include Umgee, Ya, 5th Culture, Staccato, Esley, Olivaceous, Elena Cathy, Angie, Ark & Co., hot and Delish. Shop early for best selection.

Volunteers for the Lab of Ornithology needed

Volunteers are needed for the Migration Celebration at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, May 12, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., volunteering 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Sign up by April 20 at www.birds.cornell.edu/birdday.

The iPad and education

A free seminar, “The Mobility Revolution: How the iPad is Changing Education,” will be held April 12, 11 a.m.-noon or 2-3 p.m., The Cornell Store. Mobile pedagogy represents a fundamental shift in content access and the role of the traditional classroom. In addition to exploring the dynamics of a mobility-based education paradigm, this seminar will examine the practical implementation strategies, hardware and support necessary for mobile education. The seminar is presented by Jon Landis, Ph.D., a development executive with Apple Inc. Seating is limited. Register online for your choice of sessions:

- For the 11 a.m.-noon session: https://edseminars.apple.com/event/352d0-1VH91
- For the 2-3 p.m. session: https://edseminars.apple.com/event/8kKp-u2V45

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Exerci$e bike, $150. Schwinn recumbent exer-
cise bike, model 210P, hardly used. In excellent condition. prh3@cornell.edu or 257-3168.

Double-wide mobile home in Whitney Point, $25,000 cash. 179.1 mile schools/shopping. 3BR/2BA. Spacious, vault ceilings, oak cabinets, carpet. New fridge, propane hot water. Shed. Huge lot. krks4@cornell.edu or 255-0388.

$250, mission style crib/toddler bed with mattress. Purchased new, used by visiting grandchild. Contact: cjdomiakl@aol.com or 844-9113.

1998 Chevy Tahoe $3,500, 92,000 miles great condition and well maintained. Willing to discuss price! mmv6@cornell.edu.

28’ Rinker Cuddy, $41,000. Family boat, great for water sports. Very roomy. Comes with lots of extras and a trailer. Ready for your summer enjoyment. mp324@cornell.edu.

Queen-sized 12-drawer platform storage bed, $400. Nice cherry laminate finish. Bought new and assembled about 1 year ago. Tons of storage! cab18@cornell.edu or 279-7800.

Pella EnergyStar vinyl patio slider door, $175. Vinyl out, screen, wood inside ($700 new, 4 yrs. ago). Photo available. dj243@cornell.edu or 607-708-4121.

Solid wood bedroom set for a young person, $400. Brown, includes dresser, bookshelves, 2 beds and desk. In excellent condition. abc49@cornell.edu or 319-0726.

Country home for sale in Hunts Corners, Marathon, $149,900. 2BR, 2Bath w/base-
ment finished 3rdBR/FL/loft/door; new range;dishwasher;paint;Propane appliances; wrapped deck; 24’round pool; scenic view.

Home for sale by owner, $125,000. South of Dryden. Photos: https://picasaweb.google.
.com/102988821594803177003/House?auth-
key=Gv1sRgCMy5kNLL596LqgE# Email:geu1@cornell.edu or jlc33. geu1@cornell.edu or 844-9237.

WANTED

Verizon cell phone (with charger), free or cheap. cnd3@cornell.edu or 277-4564.

Gainfully employed student graduate looking for 1 or more people to share an apartment in a fun neighborhood in San Francisco. Price flexible. ccf64@cornell.edu.